COMMANDER DIGEST
VOL. 18, NO. 9, 1975 / AUGUST 28, 1975

How Military Construction Supports Defense Readiness

Military Construction: Springboard for Defense

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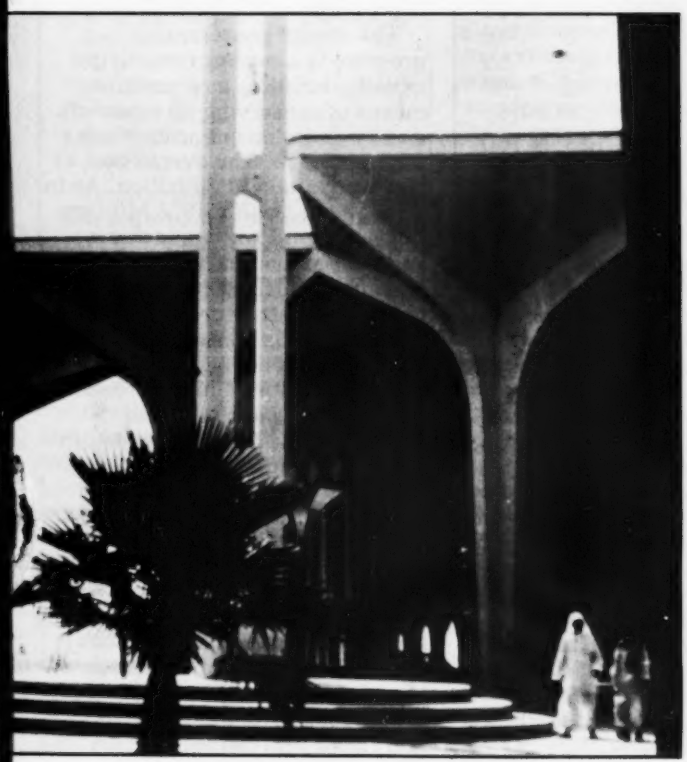
The Military Construction Program is vital to the establishment of an efficient logistical base in support of operational forces and to the maintenance of an adequate state of military readiness. It includes the acquisition of necessary facilities in support of the Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force; the Defense Agencies; and the Guard/Reserve Forces. Real Program Value (RPV) is a measure used by the Department of Defense to identify the segment of DoD budgets that contributes to U.S. and Allied peacetime capability. Specifically, RPV includes the pay of U.S. active and Guard/Reserve military personnel, pay of DoD civilians, purchases of equipment and services, military construction, research and development, and some share of support to other nations.

DEFICIENCIES

Due to the relatively low priority given to military construction in the budgets of the Military Services during the past years, particularly as a result of the extraordinary dollar demands of the long conflict in Southeast Asia, the construction of new, modern facilities to replace much of the aging and obsolescent military plant has suffered repeated deferments. Since the wind-down and cessation of the conflict, the Services have made impressive efforts to accelerate the program for eliminating this backlog of facility deficiencies. Much of these efforts, however, has in turn been diluted by the continued escalation of construction costs plus the need to devote relatively large amounts of budgetary resources to new weapons systems such as Safeguard, and more recently, Trident. The total inventory value for all military real property including family housing, industrial facilities, the Military Assistance Program, and Guard and Reserves facilities is estimated at $41.7 billion. We estimate that there is a total construction backlog of facility deficiencies totaling $25.5 billion.

Overcoming the large backlog of construction hinges to a considerable degree on a marked reduction in inflationary trends in the Nation's economy and substantial future increases in military construction budgets. Our goal is to develop a level of funding



Military Construction Programs encompass a wide variety of facilities in support of U.S. Defense missions and Allied peacetime capabilities. The diversity of structures includes the auditorium of the Naval War College, top left, a Saudi Arabian civil air terminal, bottom left, and a modular family housing unit.

which would keep pace with our new mission assignments and which would liquidate current deficiencies in a reasonable period.

RECENT PROGRAMS

The annual Military Construction Program is a multi-billion dollar program. During the last five fiscal years (FY 1971 through FY 1975), the total obligational authority (TOA) totalled $12.4 billion. The following chart gives a breakdown of the TOA amounts for the active forces, the Guard and Reserve forces, and for military family housing.

Military Construction Programs
(TOA in Millions of Dollars)

	FY 71	FY 72	FY 73	FY 74	FY 75
Army	572	464	593	700	643
Navy	310	366	465	590	602
Air Force	265	275	266	252	445
Defense Agencies	11	12	17	25	47
Guard/Reserves					
Army Reserve	10	34	38	41	44
Naval & Marine Corps Reserve	5	11	20	23	22
Air Force Reserve	5	9	7	10	16
Army National Guard	16	29	40	35	59
Air National Guard	10	12	16	18	36
Total-Guard/Reserve	46	95	121	127	177
Family Housing	706	844	1,006	1,128	1,160
Homeowners' Assistance	9	9	3	8	16
TOTAL TOA	1,918	2,063	2,473	2,831	3,090

During the past five fiscal years, the Military Construction Program placed emphasis on those facility needs which were determined to be most urgent toward maintaining a high degree of readiness and mobilization capability, as well as on those projects which, in our judgment, would enhance the attractiveness of a military career and thus help in achieving and maintaining an all volunteer force. During this period of time, substantial increments were included for bachelor housing, family housing, medical facilities, air and water pollution abatement projects, and upgrading of the Guard and Reserve forces.

Significant items included the U.S. share of the NATO Infrastructure Program; initiation of the Trident Refit Complex; initiation of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; acceleration of the program for upgrading of military medical facilities; construction for the Safeguard Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) system; and initiation of the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) concept to protect the long term operational capabilities of our military flying facilities and insure that land uses around these flying facilities are compatible with military airfield operations.

The Military Construction Program was subjected to many influences in the early 1970s. The construction program had to adapt to a large reduction in military strength, consolidations and realignment of missions performed by the major military installations, the shift from a draft-dominated to an all volunteer force, a greater reliance on the mobilization readiness of the Guard/Reserve forces, rapidly escalating construction costs, improvements in pollution abatement, and the constant need to strive for the utmost efficiency in the use of defense dollars devoted to military construction.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

On March 17, 1975, the Department of Defense submitted to the Congress the FY 1976 Military Construction Authorization Bill totalling $4.2 billion. This request is the largest ever for the Department of Defense and is approximately $900 million greater than the request in FY 1975. We estimate that this increase is due to the following:

- Approximately one-half is directly attributable to inflation.
- One-third is for an additional three-month period from July 1 through September 30, 1976, which is the transition period between the old fiscal year basis and the new fiscal year which was in the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-344).
- Approximately 15 per cent reflects the $136 million for the first of a six-year energy conservation investment program.

The energy conservation program is aimed at retrofitting existing facilities as a positive means of conserving all types of energy and reducing utility costs to a minimum. The overall cost of this program is $1.35 billion. As in prior years, the FY 1976 Military Construction Program includes substantial increments for operational facilities such as the NATO Infrastructure Program and tactical aircraft shelters; training facilities such as increased use of flight simulators and the second increment of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; maintenance and production facilities such as the $187 million for the third phase of the Trident Refit Complex; $57 million for nuclear weapons security; and hospital and medical facilities such as: the $42 million addition at Fort Knox, Kentucky; the $100 million for the second phase of the medical center modernization at Bethesda, Maryland; and the $98 million for

an addition and alteration to the composite medical facility at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Bachelor housing facilities total $446 million and family housing totals $1.3 billion for FY 1976. Also included is $120 million in support of air and water pollution abatement. Construction for the Guard and Reserve forces totals $206 million. The following chart summarizes the total obligational authority being requested in the current military construction program.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM (TOA IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

	FY 1976	FY 197T*
Army	962	37
Navy	854	17
Air Force	704	14
Defense Agencies	152	1
Guard/Reserve Forces	230	6
Army Reserve	(50)	(2)
Naval and Marine Corps Reserve	(36)	(-)
Air Force Reserve	(18)	(1)
Army National Guard	(63)	(2)
Air National Guard	(63)	(1)
Family Housing	1,271	286
Homeowners Assistance	5	1
TOTAL	4,177	363

*Three month transition between new and old budget periods.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

The Military Construction Program is a dynamic program which must follow and respond to the development of new technology and weapons systems, new and more stringent environmental and health protection requirements, uncertain inflationary trends, the urgent need for energy management and conservation, revised budgeting and programming procedures required by the recent enactment of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act, and the need to control the growth of the aging facility inventory. The limited resources require a full evaluation of relative priorities of various programs and projects. We expect to give maximum consideration to those projects which improve combat readiness, and to those which will permit consolidation of functions and eliminate redundant facilities on a multi-Service basis.

In recognition of the current and developing worldwide energy shortage, it will be necessary that facilities proposed for military construction incorporate energy systems which effect maximum reduction in the use of conventional fossil fuels or in energy generated from such sources. Existing facilities will continue to be used as test platforms for solar heating and cooling.

With the increasing activities of terrorists and other criminal elements over the past few years, we plan to improve the security of land based nuclear weapons storage sites against the dimensions of this new threat. We will continue to provide facilities which will improve living and working conditions related to the Services' capability to attract and retain personnel in the all volunteer environment.

Because the deficit of adequate housing has now been reduced to a manageable level, we believe that we have turned the corner with regard to large scale new housing construction programs on a DoD-wide basis. Therefore, in the next five years we will concentrate on (1) a select and more modest new construction program to meet specialized needs, such as realignments or consolidation of forces, new bases or locations; (2) upgrading and modernization of the existing DoD inventory; (3) special programs in select areas, such as "special risk insurance" in cooperation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to stimulate community growth in non-metropolitan areas at or around military installations; and (4) leasing or lease-construct agreements in overseas areas where feasible.

We expect to include under the NATO program a special category of projects in support of U.S. forces, which would otherwise be funded from appropriated U.S. funds.

Finally, studies are underway to determine the most efficient base and support structure for strategic and tactical aircraft, troop and pilot training, depot level maintenance, and inventory control points. This is the second phase of the base realignment program which involves a concerted effort to maximize the cross or joint Service utilization of bases and facilities that lend themselves to common usage.

We believe that the program we have chartered for future military construction will provide the needed logistic support for our future new weapons systems and will result in the replacement and modernization of inefficient and obsolete facilities. The emphasis on pollution abatement and energy conservation support the national programs in these areas, and our programming for better housing for our military personnel should result in improved morale and assist in the maintenance of a voluntary force.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

Vol. 18, No. 9, August 28, 1975

A publication of the Department of Defense to provide official and professional information to commanders and key personnel on matters related to Defense policies, programs and interests, and to create better understanding and teamwork within the Department of Defense.

Published weekly by the American Forces Press Service, 1117 N. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Office of Information for the Armed Forces, OASD (M&RA). Reproduction of content is authorized.

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Army Construction

The United States Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for substantially all construction for the Army, most of the regular construction for the Air Force, such construction for other Federal agencies as may be assigned, and work for foreign governments as directed.

Under the general heading of Military Construction, Army (MCA), for fiscal year 1975, the Congress has authorized approximately $1.25 billion for military construction. This includes a wide variety of new building and modernization plus continued funding for projects already underway.

To illustrate the type and nature of projects undertaken by the Corps under MCA, a random selection of approved funding for a typical installation follows: entrance road, $2,540,000; barracks modernization, $12,389,000; enlisted men's barracks with dining facility, $2,289,000; airfield approach control and instrument landing system, $1,342,000; dental clinic, $1,158,000; and a complete barracks complex, $22,207,000. Some of these will be entirely new while others are carried forward from previously started projects. A more detailed look at some of the major programs follows.

Air Force Construction

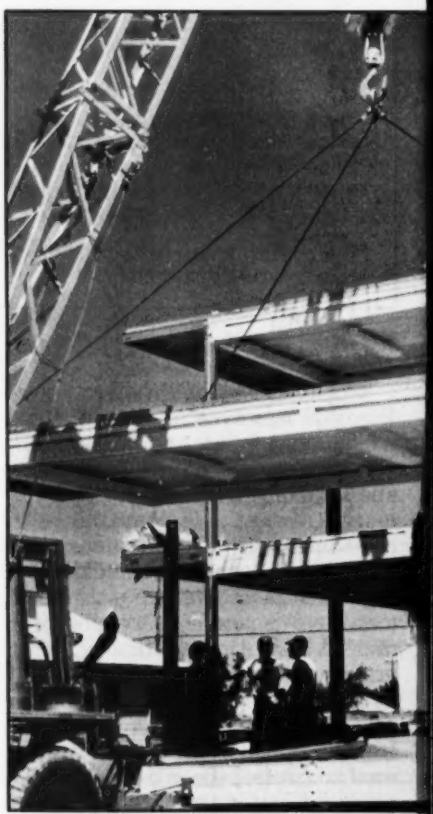
The annual Military Construction Program (MCP) for the Air Force has increased significantly during the past several years in support of some rather unique programs. The fiscal year (FY) 1974 MCP authorization was approximately $247 million. The FY 76 MCP authorization request has increased to $703.6 million. Since the major Air Force mission is flying, it would follow that this increase is tied to some new and improved flying concepts.

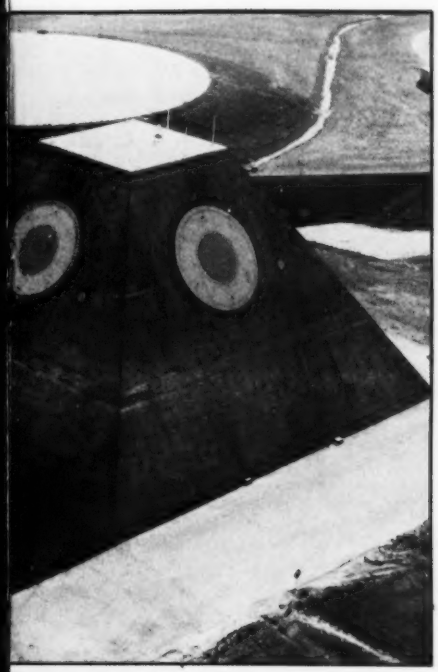
SIMULATORS

Directly in keeping with the emphasis on conserving energy is a program to construct flight simulator facilities for pilot training. Using these simulators, pilots will be able to gain and retain flying proficiency in a variety of aircraft without ever leaving the ground—with resultant savings in the fuel normally required for pilot training.

AWACS

A new mission for Tactical Air Command is the Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) to operate out of Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Oklahoma. The FY 76 program includes the initial support facilities required for the C5 and E3A aircraft to be used in this mission.





Significant items in the multi-billion dollar Military Construction Program include Safeguard Ballistic Missile Defense complexes, such as the North Dakota site control building constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

BARRACKS/BOQs

For those coming into the Army, and those already in, the Corps has an on-going barracks building and modernization program. This program is high in Corps priorities, keynoting, as it does, the new concepts and innovations the Corps is contributing to the volunteer Army. There has been a needed change in the basic design of barracks, messes and bachelor officers quarters (BOQs). Permanent pre-World War II facilities on some of the older posts and even some of the relatively new barracks of the 1960s do not meet the new standards. Improvements vary from internal partitioning, which divides open bays into one-, two-, or three-man rooms, to complete renovations, as well as entirely new barracks designed to meet the needs of the soldier by providing more privacy, more comfortable living conditions and more security for the soldier's personal possessions.

Over the next few years, the Army plans to erect 100,000 new barracks spaces, 7,000 new BOQ spaces, and modernize 158,000 existing barracks spaces to conform to the new higher standards. This program is expected to continue at least through fiscal year 1978 at about

Since FY 72 the Air Force has programmed new family housing units at 26 bases which will add to the inventory more than 7,900 homes, such as the modular unit at left.

AIRCRAFT SHELTERS

In a continuing program to protect tactical aircraft, the Air Force MCP has requested funds in FY 75-76 for additional aircraft shelters at various locations.

NAV AIDS

Improved safety during aircraft landing and take-off is the basis for a continuing program to install new solid state instrument landing systems and more reliable navigational aids on runways.

INDUSTRIAL

The Air Force Depot Plant Modernization Program (DPMP) began with the FY 72 MCP. The scope of this program includes modernizing the industrial resources: the depot facilities and equipment on the maintenance and distribution activities at five Air Logistic Centers (ALC). The DPMP is a vital, essential element of the Air Force's long range plans to achieve a modernized, cost-effective and efficient depot operation.

MEDICAL

Increased emphasis on improving the quality of medical care for military families is reflected by a $155 million budget for addition and alteration of medical facilities in FY 76. The major effort will be directed toward the Regional Medical Center (Wilford Hall) at Lackland AFB, Texas.

its present level. For the junior officer, the Army is providing 330 square feet of living space consisting of a private combination living/bedroom and a pullman type kitchen. Captains and above will have a private suite of approximately 460 square feet consisting of a living room, bedroom, and kitchen.

MEDICAL CONSTRUCTION

The FY 75 approved program includes projects totalling $92.37 million located at 35 separate installations. Major projects include the $10.3 million new hospital at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, and a $21.1 million addition to the Irwin Army Hospital at Fort Riley, Kansas. A large portion of the program provides for electrical, mechanical and fire safety upgrading of existing hospitals to meet recent code requirements and accreditation standards.

FAMILY HOUSING

The Army inventory currently contains approximately 133,000 family housing units which are considered adequate, plus another 7,297 inadequate units which are still in use. The family housing program has grown rapidly during the past five years, along with the general emphasis on soldier oriented facilities. We are building more houses but at a lower unit cost level. Funding growth has not kept pace with inflation. This year (FY 75) Congress has appropriated $98.5 million (not included in MCA) for 2,900 family housing units. A basic fact here is that the statutory limits have not kept pace with inflation in the building industry and these units will necessarily be built at an austere level. An average unit cost of

PEOPLE PROJECTS

In addition to normal design considerations we have placed emphasis on improving the life style of career Air Force personnel. This is most evident in our "people" projects—housing, dining halls, and community support. Existing facilities are being modernized to current standards and our design criteria is continually being carefully reviewed to assure that we are not constructing yesterday's building today. In both airmen and officer bachelor housing we are striving to improve the livability for the occupants by providing more privacy, better furnishings, color-coordinated carpeting and draperies, and, in general, a more home-like environment.

FAMILY HOUSING

If one were to ask what is the number one concern of Air Force families, the most likely answer would be housing—either the lack of or the inadequacy of it. In an effort to dispel this concern, the Air Force, since FY 72, has programmed new family housing units at 26 bases which will add more than 7900 homes to the inventory. We are now emphasizing the upgrading and modernizing of the existing inventory. In FY 74 and FY 75 the Air Force targeted more than $70 million to upgrade and modernize over 7700 homes. In FY 76, we are requesting $53 million to modernize 4700 additional homes. These improvements are directed at providing features such as central air conditioning, modern kitchens and bathrooms, soundproofing between units, family rooms, storage space, etc.

ENVIRONMENT

While the major portion of the military construction program is directed toward operational needs, special funds are set apart for preserving natural resources—energy conservation and pollution abatement. The energy conservation projects stress installation of more efficient lighting, additional building insulation, and mechanical and electrical equipment monitoring electrical equipment monitoring controls. The pollution package includes both air and water projects, with most of the effort being directed toward improving treatment and disposal of industrial and sanitary waste.

The Air Force Military Construction Program is never static. New missions and new planes provide a challenging diversity of projects for Air Force civil engineering.

Army family housing construction has grown rapidly during the last five years. In FY 75 Congress appropriated $98.5 million for family housing units. Below is an interior and exterior view of an Army family home at Vint Hill Farms, Va.

$33,000 was proposed by the Army for the FY 74 program; $27,500 was approved. In FY 75, we tried again for $33,000 and $30,000 was approved. We are making some headway.

PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT

Another major construction program, formerly called Procurement of Equipment and Missiles/Army (PEMA), is now known as Production Base Support (PBS). Starting with 1966, PBS construction contract awards averaged $90 million annually. Current PBS construction emphasizes modernization of the Army Material Command's (mostly World War II) production facilities. In this connection, it should be noted that a large part of the almost $58 million FY 75 pollution abatement funding will be spent for construction of pollution

NAVY CONSTRUCTION

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) is responsible for the execution of the Navy's Military Construction Program. In addition to construction which will directly support the Fleet, the Command executes a wide and varied program, which provides all the necessary facilities for the Naval shore establishment.

Since the inception of the all volunteer force, a large portion of Navy's military construction (MILCON) budget has been set aside to rehabilitate, modernize and develop new personnel support facilities. In order to achieve a high retention rate, the Navy must provide its personnel and their dependents with the best possible living, recreation, and health care facilities.

HOSPITALS

In 1974 the Navy began an extensive five-year hospital modernization program, which will eventually create an estimated $800 million worth of modern health care facilities. Other medical facilities approved in prior programs will further add to our health facility inventory. One of these, a 250-bed Navy hospital is currently underway at New Orleans and is scheduled for completion in June, 1976. The approved fiscal year (FY) 1975 MILCON program specifies modernization of hospitals at Portsmouth, Virginia; Beaufort, South Carolina; and Jacksonville, Florida; and future plans call for replacement of existing hospitals at Orlando, Florida; Port Hueneme, California; and Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

It is also planned to replace some of the existing facilities at Bethesda with a new 500-bed hospital and modernize a segment of the existing facilities. This hospital renovation program will coincide with the building of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland, a Department of Defense project for which the Navy serves as construction agent. The facility will train doctors in both basic and advanced medical skills for all of the Military Services.

abatement facilities at 17 Army ammunition plants. This production base modernization program was originally conceived as a five year effort costing $2.4 billion. After several revisions, it evolved into the current 12 year program ending in the 1987 time frame and estimated at $3.5 billion. This program will average about $210 million a year over the next ten years. About half of this money will fund construction performed by the Corps. The remainder will be used by the Army Material Command to procure modern production equipment.

NASA

Reimbursable programs comprise a significant part of the Corps' military construction effort. A typical case in point is the support provided to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for the space shuttle program. The Corps is providing consultant services, criteria development, design and construction. This will include support of the Marshall Space Flight Center's portion of the program at the Mississippi Test Facility and at the Michoud Assembly Facility in Louisiana. NASA will use the services of a consultant team of six to eight professional people to assist in construction of the launch and landing installation for the space shuttle at the Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral, Florida. A similar installation is planned for Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, under the Air Force construction program.

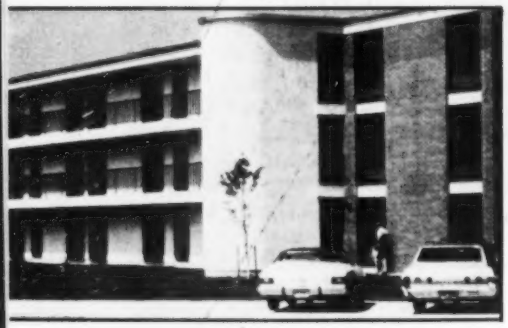
SAUDI ARABIA

Another major program for which the U.S. Government is fully reimbursed is that of Saudi Arabia. Because of the confidence of the Saudi Government in the competence of the Corps and the direction of the U.S. Government, the Corps has proceeded.

In Saudi Arabia there are five major programs. One, which is essentially complete, is the establishment of a radio/television communications system. The Corps not only constructed the system, to include installation of the electronics, but has trained the Saudis to operate it. A second major program involves the construction of three brigade-size cantonments. The first was constructed at Khamis Mushayt near the border of Yemen at a cost of $80 million.

In 1973 a second cantonment was completed near the border of Jordan. The third cantonment is currently under construction on the Iraq/Kuwait border. It, too, will be an $80 million project.

A third program involves the establishment of a logistical system in support of the vehicles



The Navy stresses architecture, style and comfort in the construction of housing facilities such as the BEQ at Pensacola, Fla., left, and the family housing complex at Murphy Canyon, Calif.

BEQs

The current emphasis on habitability has also focused the Navy's attention on other areas of personnel support, such as bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQs), clubs, theatres and recreational facilities. Over the past few years a sizable portion of the Navy's MILCON budget has been used to update these facilities. Architecture, style and comfort have been stressed in order to enhance the all volunteer force concept. The modern modular BEQ has transformed the group life style of open bay barracks to the privacy of three-man suites, private bath, better furniture, drapes, carpeting and lounges. The Navy has completed several of these modular BEQs and modernized many others along these lines.

Among our recently completed modern personnel support facilities is a $4.7 million Marine Corps women's complex consisting of a 430-woman BEQ and dining facility at Parris Island, South Carolina. Another 1008-man BEQ project was completed last March at the Naval Air Station (NAS), Pensacola, Florida, at a cost of $3.8 million. Future plans call for a 540-man BEQ for the Fleet Combat Director Systems Training Center at Dam Neck, Virginia; a 380-man BEQ at the Naval Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut; and a 400-man BEQ at the Naval Air Station, Cubi Point, in the Philippines.

FAMILY HOUSING

Adequate family housing is one of the key factors in personnel retention. As Navy-Marine Corps design and construction agent, NAVFAC has placed some 15,800 new units of family housing under contract since 1970. The family

and equipment which were purchased from the United States. Under the contract, the Corps constructed logistical facilities as well as provided maintenance, supply and training support. When this project was completed in 1973, the Saudi Government asked that the Corps continue to act as contracting agent for a contract with Bendix Corporation which is providing training support. The Corps is also acting in an advisory capacity until such time as the Saudis are able to operate the program.

A fourth program involves the expansion of facilities for the Saudi Arabian Navy. This is now in the early stages of construction and calls for destroyer size port facilities near Dhahran on the Persian Gulf and at Jidda on the Red Sea.

The fifth program involves modernization of the Saudi Arabian National Guard. In March of 1973, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the governments of the U.S. and Saudi Arabia which commits the U.S. to assist the Saudi Arabian government in a program to modernize the Saudi Arabian National Guard. The Corps is responsible for planning, supervision and execution of all engineering activities associated with design and construction of facilities. Construction will include a headquarters complex in Riyadh, and training, maintenance and cantonment facilities at Kashm-Al-Ain at a cost of about $250 million. Construction is in the planning and design stages at this time.

AIR FORCE SUPPORT

Since the Air Force became a separate Service, the Corps of Engineers has been its principal design and construction agent. Over the last five years the Corps has been responsible for execution of some $200 million annually of the Air Force construction program. This Air Force work constitutes a significant portion of the Corps' construction workload, approximately 22 per cent.

One major project for the Air Force during recent years has been the expansion of the North American Air Defense (NORAD) complex deep within Cheyenne Mountain near Colorado Springs. The original mountain headquarters was also designed and constructed under Corps supervision and was completed in 1966. NORAD is composed of various elements of U.S. and Canadian military forces. Its mission is to direct the air defense of North America around the clock. Need for an operations headquarters that would be relatively invulnerable led to the construction of this hardened facility. This expansion includes

housing construction program reached its peak during fiscal years 1973 and 1974, when some 6800 units were authorized for construction at a cost of $200 million. In the future, family housing construction will total approximately 1,000 units per year, primarily at remote locations. Additional funds will be concentrated toward improving existing housing units by alterations and modernizations: bringing servicable older units to the level of adequacy required to offer military personnel good living quarters for themselves and their families.

OPERATIONAL FACILITIES

While special emphasis is continuing throughout the entire personnel support area, the Navy continues to direct the major portion of its MILCON budget towards operational facilities and those required to sustain, modernize and improve service support of the Fleet. These projects range from the Navy's Energy Conservation Investment Program which reduces utilities costs to such huge undertakings as the Trident Support Facilities, a fully integrated and dedicated refit and logistic support base for the new Trident Missile System.

Some of the operational facilities also deal with such national concerns as pollution abatement and noise reduction. The Navy is currently constructing a prototype aircraft acoustical enclosure at NAS Miramar, California, to minimize noise pollution. This "hush house" is equipped with sound suppression equipment to reduce the extremely high noise level of engine check-out. Pollution abatement-related projects range from the construction of industrial waste treatment plants, sewage treatment plants, and oily waste removal systems to the installation of electrostatic precipitators to reduce emissions from the smoke stacks of power plants.

Another portion of Navy's MILCON funds is earmarked for the Cold Iron Program. The "cold iron" concept allows a ship to shut down her boilers and remain fully functional by hooking up to all necessary shore utilities services through specially installed pierside equipment. These "cold iron" pier facilities extend the life of ships' equipment, reduce pollution, cut operating costs and allow the ships' personnel more time for leave and liberty—a definite plus for retention. A $3.3 million pier facilities contract of this nature was recently completed at NAS North Island, San Diego, California.

NAVAL AIR

Among the FY 1975 military construction projects in support of the Navy's air arm are a series of aircraft hangars, ranging in cost

The New York Bulk Mail Center is one of the postal facilities constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers under a special agreement with the U.S. Postal Service.

three, new 3-story buildings, a new utilities plant and extensive modifications to existing buildings and facilities, all inside Cheyenne Mountain.

POSTAL CONSTRUCTION

The United States Postal Service modernization program began in 1972 with an agreement between the Secretary of the Army and the Postmaster General. This agreement provided for the Corps to undertake construction of 21 bulkmail centers and 12 bulkmail service facilities with a programmed cost of $1 billion; preferential mail facilities at $3.9 billion and small postal buildings at $150 million.

The program also included real estate servicing for 31,000 rented facilities, and site acquisition for postal-owned facilities. The Postal Service construction mission has been a significant part of the Corps workload. However, early in 1973, the Office of Management and Budget transferred the major portion of the program back to the Postal Service, leaving only the 21 bulkmail centers to be completed by the Corps.

The Corps is continuing construction on these centers until their completion in fiscal year 1976. This will bring the total Corps involvement in the postal program to a projected $760 million.

OTHER PROGRAMS

The foregoing includes only major military construction programs of recent or current interest to the Corps. There are numerous other construction activities which in fiscal year 1974 had a value of some $390 million. Many of these projects are classified as minor construction and are built at the request of other Government agencies or foreign governments.

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from $6 to $10 million at NAS North Island, NAS Cecil Field, and NAS Miramar. A maintenance facility awarded in November of last year is the $6.2 million Aircraft Final Finish Facility for NAS Jacksonville, Florida.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our most comprehensive project in the communications area is the Naval Communications Station, Diego Garcia, where the Seabees continue to work on communications, industrial, and personnel support facilities on that tiny atoll in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

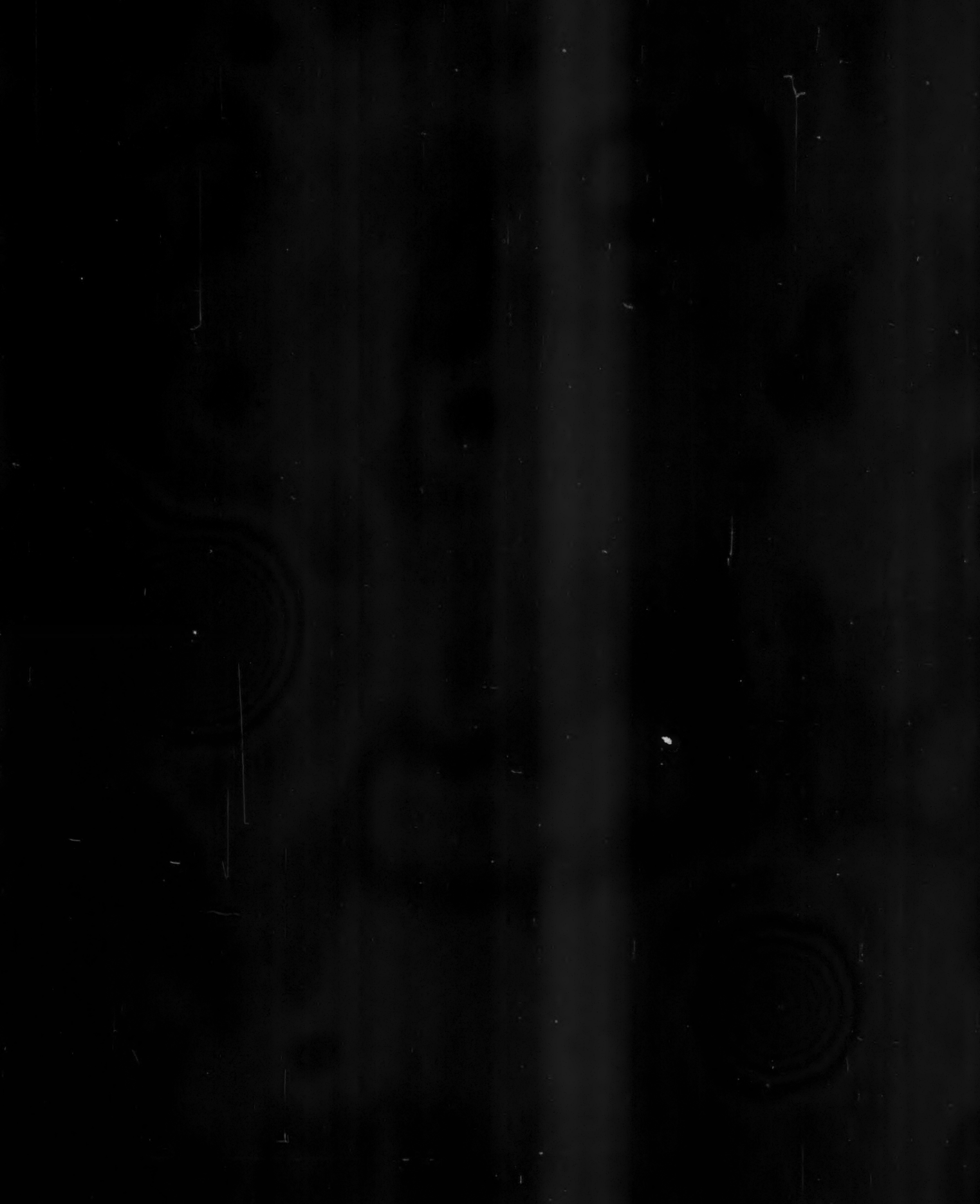
TRIDENT

The Navy's $600 million Trident Support Site, which will consist of a missile and component assembly area, a weapons support area, piers and waterfront facilities, a drydock, industrial facilities, and full administrative, training, and personnel support facilities, will be ready to accommodate the Trident fleet ballistic missile system when it becomes operational.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Additionally, NAVFAC serves as the designated Department of Defense construction agent in specified overseas areas and, in certain instances, provides interagency construction.

The Navy, for example, serves as DoD construction agent for the island of Guam and is, in fact, the only U.S. construction agent in the area. We are, therefore, currently monitoring the design of a $5 million general mail facility for the United States Postal Service on Guam.

Existing Navy MILCON programs encompass over 500 projects which, in aggregate, serve to sustain, modernize, and improve the Navy's shore establishment as well as to create the best possible living conditions for Navy personnel and their families.

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